we noted under the Chou, the recognition that governments existed which were permanently entitled to deal with the Emperor on the basis of equality and that there was a body of international law by which such intercourse was to be guided, involved nothing short of a revolution in the existing Chinese theory of society.

THE OFFICIAL HIERARCHY OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL

The major territorial administrative divisions of China proper were the provinces *(sheng).* The number had been altered frbft time to time and remnants of pre-Ch'ing units lingered in popular and literary parlance. Under the latter part of the Ch'ing, however, the provinces of China proper totalled eighteen—the ones named in the initial chapter of this work. In 1884 Sinkiang was made a province. Manchuria was divided into three additional provinces, but the machinery and control of these varied from those of the eighteen of China proper. The administration of the outlying dependencies of the Empire Vas still different.

The eighteen provinces were in turn subdivided into *fu,* or prefectures, *t'ing,* sub-prefectures independent of «a *ju*$_y$ *chou* not gov^erned through a *fu, chou* subject to a *fu,* and *hsien,* usually translated as districts, and also subject either to a *fu* or to one of the *chou* which was not under a *fu.* The *hsien* were much more numerous than either the *t'ing* or the *chou.*

The chief officers of the province were usually rather loosely designated in English as the Viceroy,or Governor-general *(Tsung Tu, Chih Chun,* or *Chih T'ai),* the Goveisior *(Hsiin Fu, Fu Yuan,* or *Fu T'ai),* the Lieutenant Governor or Treasurer (colloquially called the *Fan T'ai),* the Provincial Judge (colloquially called the *Nieh T'ai),* the Salt Comptroller, and the .Grain

Intendant The, officers of the subdivisions most frequently mentioned were the Intendant of a circuit (colloquially, the *Tao T'ai), the* Prefect, or head of a *fu (Chih Fu),* the Sub-prefect *(Tung Chih),* the Magistrate of an independent *chou (Chih Chou),* and the District Magistrate *(Chih Hsien).* There were, of course, other officials who did not figure so frequently or so prominently in the administration. Ranks in the hierarchy were indicated by colored buttons on the official caps and by insignia on the front and back of robes of state.

The Viceroys outranked all the others.

Under most of the